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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 208, February 9, 2024

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active, but with a 5-week maximum.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section, updated daily; and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

The bulletin is available at <http://www.arrl.org>

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](#), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data
11 Feb 2024 1552 GMT
 SFI: **194** SN: **146**
 A-Index: **5**
 K-Index: **2**
 X-Ray: **C1.5**
 304A: **168.7** @ SEM
 Ptn Flx: **5030**
 Elc Flx: **79500**
 Aurora: **1/n=1.99**
 Mag (Bz): **-4.6**
 Solar Wind: **667.8**
 Geonag Field **QUIET**
 Sig Noise Lvl **S1-S2**
 Current Solar Image



<http://www.nbnbb.com>
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DX News

3DA, KINGDOM OF ESWATINI. Hans, **3DAØAQ** has been QRV on 15 meters using digital modes between 1800 and 2000z. QSL via [EA5GL](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

5R, MADAGASCAR. Eric, F6ICX is QRV as **5R8IC** until March 31st. Activity is holiday style on 40 to 10 meters using mainly CW with low power. The last two weeks here will be spent being active on Satellite QO-100. QSL direct to [F6ICX](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0308)

5X, UGANDA. Dick, W6TK will be active as **5X2G** on February 12th-29th while visiting family in Uganda. He will operate CW and FT8/FT4 and hopes to participate in the ARRL

DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th) on a part time basis. QSL via LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

5X, UGANDA. DJ6TF, DK1BT, DL4WK and DL7BO have been active as **5X7O** from Uganda since February 7th and will remain there until February 19th. They operate CW, SSB and digital modes on 160-10 meters. QSL via [DJ6TF](#), LoTW, [ClubLog's QRSS](#).
-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

5X, UGANDA. Alan, G3XAQ and Don, G3XTT will be active as **5X1XA** from Uganda on February 12th-20th. They will operate CW only, including an entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th). QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW, ClubLog and G3SWH's web site after the activity. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [G3SWH](#) (QRSS on <https://www.g3swh.org.uk/multiple-request.php>).
-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0223)

5X, UGANDA. Paul, **5X4E** has been active on 20 meters using SSB around 1500z. QSL direct to [IZ3ZLG](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 18, 2024] (0119-0223)

5Z, KENYA. Martin, **5Z4PA** has been active on 20 meters using CW around 0200z. QSL via [MØURX](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 18, 2024] (0119-0223)

6W, SENEGAL. Willy, ON4AVT will be QRV as **6W7/ON4AVT** from Warang from February 3rd to April 16th. Activity is on 80 to 10 meters using SSB and various digital modes, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL to [ON4AVT](#), [ClubLog's QRSS](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0308)

7O, YEMEN. Vlad, OK2WX will be active from Socotra Island (AF-028) from January 25th to February 12th as **7O2WX** on HF, with a focus on the low bands. He plans to set up monoband verticals for 160, 80, and 40m. QRV also during the CQWW 160m CW Contest (January 26th to 28th). For more information see: <https://www.mdxc.support/7o2wx/> QSL via [IZ8CCW](#).
-[DXNL # 2390 January 24, 2024] (0126-0216)

7P, LESOTHO. Pista, HA5AO is QRV as **7P8AO** until February 19th. Activity is on 40 to 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0223)

8R, GUYANA. Callsign **8R7X** will be used by the February 14th-24th DXpedition to Guyana. Four young operators (Sven DJ4MX, Philipp DK6SP, Tomi HA8RT and Jamie MØSDV) will operate CW, SSB, FT8 and RTTY on 160-6 meters. See <https://8r-2024.com/> for more information. QSL via [MØOXO's QRSS](#) and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0209-0223)

9M2, WEST MALAYSIA. Ross, **9M2AX** has been active on 160 meters using CW from around 1230 to 1430 UTC, and then from around 2000 to 2330 UTC. QSL direct to [9M2AX](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 25, 2024] (0126-0216)

9Y, TRINIDAD AND TOBAGO. Special event station **9Y24C** will be QRV from February 10th to 13th for the National Carnival Celebration in Trinidad and Tobago 2024. Activity will be on various bands and modes. QSL via LoTW.
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0216)

A2, BOTSWANA. John, VK2NEN has lived in Botswana since 2011, and has no plans to leave the country in the near future. He has recently been licensed as **A2NEW**, and for the time being he is QRV typically between 1600 and 1900 UTC using a vertical whip mounted on his car. He hopes to install a quad antenna on his house and operate on 40-

10m. QSL via [EA7FTR](#).

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0223)

A3, TONGA. Bob, W7YAQ as **A31DK** and Al, K7AR as **A31DL** will be active from Nuku'alofa, Tongatapu (OC-049), Tonga on **February 15th-27th**. QSL A31DK via [W7YAQ](#) or LoTW. QSL A31DL via [K7AR](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#) or LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0301)

BY, CHINA. Zhang, BH4FSK plans to be QRV as **B5/BH4FSK** from Daishan Island, IOTA AS-137, from **February 13th to 15th**. Activity will be on 80 to 10 meters, including 6 meters, using QRP power. QSL to [BH4FSK](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0216)

C6, BAHAMAS. John, W6JTB, will be active as **C6ABJ** until **April 2024**.

-[DXNL # 2388 January 10, 2024] (0112-0216)

CEØZ, JUAN FERNANDEZ IS. An international team of seven (AB5EB, AD5A, N2IC, W8HC, HI3R, NP4G, and XQ3SK), supported by about 30 remote operators, will activate Robinson Crusoe Island (SA-001) from **February 10th to 24th**. QRV on 160-6m, including 60m, on CW, SSB, RTTY, and FT8. Their callsign will be **CBØZA**. Remote operation will be facilitated by an improved version of the Radio in a Box concept, called NexGenRiB, built by Gregg, W6IZT, Warren, KD4Z, and John, N4IHV, which weighs only 12kg and can easily be transported on an airplane. For the remote operation the callsign will be **CEØZEW**, which honors the memory of Marc, CE1EW, one of the organizers of the expedition who died in November; and it allows distinguishing between contacts made by the on-site team and the remote team, as IOTA rules do not allow remote contacts for IOTA awards. Ops on the island use WSJT-X F/H for FT8; remote ops use MSHV. QSL via [N2OO](#).

-[DXNL # 2392 February 7, 2024] (0209-0223)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. DK5HH, DL1TOG, and DO5JL will be active as **DPØGVN** from the German research station Neumayer III from **January 20th to early March**, mostly via QO-100. QSL via [DL5EBE](#).

-[DXNL # 2389 January 17, 2024] (0119-0223)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Felix, DL5XL will be active again as **DP1POL** from the German research station "Neumayer III" (AN-016) beginning **January 20th until early March**. In his spare time, he will operate mainly CW, with some digital modes and SSB. QSL via [DL1ZBO](#), LoTW, or [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1706 January 13, 2024] (0119-0223)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Andrii, UT3UTQ has been active as **EM1UTQ** from the Akademik Vernadskyi station on Galindez Island (AN-006), Antarctica **since January 9th**. Also stationed at Vernadskyi is Serhii, UW5EHR, who has been QRV as **EM1EHR** **since early December 2023**. Both are members of the XXVIII Ukrainian Antarctic Expedition, which is expected to remain at the base **until late March**.

-[425DXN # 1706 January 13, 2024] (0112-0216)

CE9, ANTARCTICA. Norbert, VK5MQ, will be active during the 2023/24 season from Casey Base as **VKØAI**. QSL via LoTW, eQSL, or direct. N.E. TRUPP, PO BOX 1359, MOUNT GAMBIER, SA, 5290, Australia.

-[DXNL # 2388 January 10, 2024] (0112-0216)

DL, GERMANY. Special callsign **DP9GLHN** will be used by members of DARC's Ortsverband Norderney from **February 1st to December 31st** to mark the 150th anniversary since the Norderney Island (EU-047) lighthouse was put into service. QSL via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

DL, GERMANY. Special callsign **DG22SIXTY** celebrates the DARC Ortsverband Gemund's (G22) 60th anniversary from **February 1st until December 31st**. QSL via the bureau.
-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0126-0216)

DU, PHILIPPINES. Bob, **DU7ET**, remains active **until mid-February**. QSL via [DU7ET](#).
-[DXNL # 2391 January 31, 2024] (0202-0216)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of February 9, 2024:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island
2. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	12. ZS8	Prince Edward & Marion Islands
3. CE0X	San Felix Islands	13. KH4	Midway Island
4. BV9P	Pratas Island	14. VK0M	Macquarie Island
5. KH7K	Kure Island	15. PY0S	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. KH3	Johnston Island	16. PY0T	Trindade & Martim Vaz Islands
7. FT/G	Glorioso Island	17. KP5	Desecheo Island
8. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	18. VP0S	South Sandwich Islands
9. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	19. KH5	Palmyra & Jarvis Islands
10. YV0	Aves Island	20. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[K0CF February 9, 2024] (0209-0223)

EA, SPAIN. Special callsigns **AO1WRD**, **AO2WRD**, **AO3WRD**, **AO4WRD**, **AO5WRD**, **AO6WRD** (Balearic Islands), **AO7WRD**, **AO8WRD** (Canary Islands) and **AO9WRD** (Ceuta and Melilla) are expected to be active on **February 9th-18th** in celebration of World Radio Day. World Radio Day was proclaimed in 2011 by the Member States of UNESCO and adopted by the United Nations General Assembly in 2012 as an International Day. This year's theme is "Radio: A century informing, entertaining and educating". QSL for all callsigns direct to EA3RKF: Federacion Digital EA, Apartado Postal 3050, 08200 Sabadell (Barcelona), Spain.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

EA, SPAIN. In celebration of World Radio Day (February 13th) and the 100th anniversary of the start of regular radio broadcasting in Spain, special callsign **AO100RADIO** will be active on **February 1st-29th**. This activity is taking place as part of the celebrations for the 75th anniversary of the Union de Radioaficionados Espanoles, Spain's IARU member society. QSL via [EA4URE](#) (bureau preferred).

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0302)

EA, SPAIN. Members of URE Valladolid will be active as **EG1GOY** on **February 4th-11th** for the 38th edition of the Goya Awards, whose ceremony will take place on February 10th. Presented by the Academy of Cinematographic Arts and Sciences of Spain, the Goya Awards are the Spanish equivalent of the Academy Awards. QSL via [EA1URV](#).

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0202-0216)

EK, ARMENIA. Dima, RX3DPK, continues to operate as **EK/RX3DPK** **until the end of 2024** on 160-10m (no 60m) on FT8. QSL via [RX3DPK](#).

-[DXNL # 2388 January 10, 2024] (0112-0216)

EP, IRAN. Mohammed, **EP5MMS** is often active on 20 meters using SSB around 1200 to 1300z. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 25, 2024] (0126-0301)

ET, ETHIOPIA. Ken, K4ZW, is going to pay the club station **ET3AA** a visit from **February 9th to 12th**. He hopes for permission to stay during the night hours for low band work. QSL via [N2OO](#).

-[DXNL # 2392 February 7, 2024] (0209-0216)

F, FRANCE. Celebrating World Radio Day, F8GGZ will be active as **TM24JMR** (Journee Mondiale de la Radio) **on February 13th**. Michel will operate SSB and CW on 80-10

meters. QSL via eQSL, or via the bureau.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0216)

F, FRANCE. Francois, F8DVD will be active as **TM21AAW** on **February 4th-18th**, to promote the 21st Antarctic Activity Week (February 18th-25th). He will be QRV from his home QTH in France. QSL via LoTW, or via [F8DVD](#).

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0202-0223)

F, FRANCE. Members of Radio Club Jean Bart, F6KMB will be active as **TM6C** on **February 4th-18th** during the traditional Dunkirk Carnival (Carnaval de Dunkerque). QSL via [F6KMB](#).

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0202-0223)

FM, MARTINIQUE. Yuri, VE3DZ will be active as **FM/VE3DZ** from Martinique (NA-107) on **February 13th-21st**. He will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th) as TO4A. QSLs via [ClubLog's QRSS](#), or via [VE3DZ](#).

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

FR, REUNION I. Thierry, FY4JI, will be active as **FR4AV** from **February 4th to March 11th** on 40-10m (CW, SSB). QSL via [EA5GL](#).

-[DXNL # 2391 January 31, 2024] (0202-0308)

H4, SOLOMON IS. Bernhard, DL2GAC will be active again as **H44MS** from Malaita (OC-047), Solomon Islands from around **February 10th until April 25th**. He will be QRV daily, with activity on 160-6 meters SSB and some FT8. QSL via [DL2GAC](#), direct or bureau. He will upload his log to ClubLog and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0209-0315)

HC, ECUADOR. Rick, NE8Z is QRV as **HC1MD/2**. He is generally active from 0100 to 0300z and will soon be QRV on 160 meters using FT8. QSL via [K8LJG](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

HS, THAILAND. Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Radio Amateur Society of Thailand, RAST members will be active as **HS60RAST** from **February 10th to March 10th**. QSL via [HS6MYW](#).

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0315)

HZ, SAUDI ARABIA. Members of the Saudi Arabia Radio Society will be QRV with special event stations **7Z1WRD**, **8Z1WRD**, and **HZ1WRD** from **February 11th to 13th** to commemorate World Radio Day. QSL via operators' instructions.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0216)

I, ITALY. Throughout 2024 ARI Fidenza will use a series of special callsigns each representing a "keyword" that summarizes and characterizes the content of a sentence from one of Guglielmo Marconi's many public speeches: **II4TENC** ([January](#)), **II4INTU** ([February](#)), **II4SUCC** ([March](#)), **II4DETR** ([April](#)), **II4SEAS** ([May](#)), **II4RDFE** ([June](#)), **II4INNV** ([July](#)), **II4BFRE** ([August](#)), **II4OTSR** ([September](#)), **II4VISN** ([October](#)), **II4BTFU** ([November](#)), **II4FCGD** ([December](#)). QSL via [IQ4FE](#). Information about the "Discovering Marconi" award: <http://www.arifidenza.it/>.

-[425DXN # 1706 January 13, 2024] (0112-0216)

J5, GUINEA-BISSAU. Livio, IZ3BUR is QRV as **J52EC**. Activity is in his spare time mostly on 10 meters using SSB around 1500 to 1600z. QSL direct to [IZ3BUR](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0301)

J8, ST. VINCENT. Franco, **J88BTI** is generally QRV on 160 to 10 meters using mostly CW. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

JD1/M, MINAMI TORISHIMA. Take, JG8NQJ will be QRV as **JD1/JG8NQJ** from the weather station on Marcus Island (OC-073) from **January 15th until mid-April**. Activity will be in his spare time on the HF bands using CW and some FT8. QSL direct to [JA8CJY](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 11, 2024] (0112-0216)

JY, JORDAN. Nart, **JY5IB** has been active on 30 meters using FT8 around 0300 to 0400z. QSL direct to [JY5IB](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 18, 2024] (0119-0223)

K, UNITED STATES. Special callsign **W7P** marks the Northern Arizona DX Association's 10-year special event countdown to the 100th anniversary of the discovery of Pluto by Clyde Tombaugh at Lowell Observatory in Flagstaff, Arizona (February 18, 1930). The inaugural event was held in 2021; this year's Pluto Anniversary Countdown will run on **February 10th-18th**. Also, Doug Tombaugh (N3PDT), Clyde Tombaugh's nephew, will be operating during the event as **W7P/Ø**. QSL direct to [W7P](#), see https://www.nadxa.com/w7p_pluto_2030.html for information.

-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0209-0223)

OE, AUSTRIA. Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Rhein Ruhr DX Association (<https://rrdxa.org/>), Jorg, OE6VIE is active as **OE6ØRRDXA** until **June 30th**. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) and LoTW.
-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0119-0223)

OX, GREENLAND. Look for **OX5DM**, **OX7AKT** and **OX7AM** to be active from Kangerlussuaq, Greenland (NA-018) on **February 13th-22nd**. Alex, OX7AM will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th), while OX5DM and OX7AKT will operate FT8 and SSB. QSL OX7AKT and OX7AM via [OZ1ACB](#), LoTW, or [ClubLog's OQRS](#). QSL OX5DM via [OZ1ACB](#) or [ClubLog's OQRS](#).
-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0223)

P4, ARUBA. Ed, WØYK, remains on the air as **P49X** until **February 12th**, including the CQ WPX RTTY Contest (February 10th-11th). QSL via [WØYK](#).
-[DXNL # 2392 February 7, 2024] (0209-0216)

P4, ARUBA. John, W2GD will be QRV as **P44W** from Santa Cruz from **February 12th to 20th**. Activity will be on all bands, with an emphasis on 30, 17, and 12 meters, using CW as time permits. This includes being a Single Op/All Band entry in the upcoming ARRL DX CW contest (February 17th-18th). QSL via [N2MM](#).
-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0223)

PACIFIC TOUR. Hrane, YT1AD and his team (Anatoliy RC9O, Olga UA9OLY and Stevan YU3AA) will be active from Fiji (3D2), Samoa (5W) and Tonga (A3) as follows:
February 7th-10th, 3D2, Fiji

3D2AD (YT1AD)

3D2AB (YU3AA)

3D2LY (UA9OLY)

3D2RC (RC9O)

February 10th-19th, 5W, Samoa

5W8A (YT1AD)

5WØAA (YU3AA)

5WØLY (UA9OLY)

5WØRC (RC9O)

February 20th-27th, A3, Tonga

A35AD (YT1AD)

A35AA (YU3AA)

A35LY (UA9OLY)

A35RC (RC9O)

February 27th - March 1st, 3D2, Fiji

3D2AD ([YT1AD](#))

3D2AB ([YU3AA](#))

3D2LY ([UA9OLY](#))

3D2RC ([RC9Q](#))

QSL via home calls.

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0301)

PJ5, SABA & ST. EUSTATIUS. Janusz, SP9FIH is QRV as **PJ5/SP9FIH** until April 3rd.

Activity is on 40 to 6 meters, and possibly 60 meters, using SSB, RTTY, FT8, and FT4. QSL via LoTW, [SP9FIH](#), [ClubLog's QRSS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 11, 2024] (0112-0216)

PJ7, SINT MAARTEN. Fabian, DM7HG and Paul, DM2PF will be active holiday style from Sint Maarten (NA-105) on **February 15th-28th**. They will be QRV on 20, 15 and 10 meters as either **PJ7/DM7HG** and **PJ7/DM2PF** or a PJ7 callsign if they can get one.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

PY, BRAZIL. Fabio, PY4YY, signs **ZW2FF** from Comprida Island (SA-028) from **February 11th to 14th**. QSOs also count for the WWFF reference PYFF-0386. QSL via [PY4YY](#).

-[DXNL # 2392 February 7, 2024] (0209-0216)

SM, SWEDEN. Celebrating the Scandinavian CW Activity Group's 50th anniversary, special callsign **SC5ØAG** will be active during **February**. All QSOs will be confirmed automatically via the bureau and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0202-0301)

T8, PALAU. Nobu, JAØJHQ will be QRV as **T88PB** from Koror Island, IOTA OC-009, from **February 12th to 15th**. QSL direct to [JAØJHQ](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0216)

TA, TURKEY. Special callsign **TC6EQ** will be active on **February 1st-29th** to commemorate the earthquake that struck Turkey on February 6, 2023, causing widespread damage, and killing nearly 51,000 people. In particular, this activity will honor the memory of Mustafa Ezer (TA8DX), who lost his life in that catastrophic event. A certificate will be available on <https://tadx.org/awards>. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1708 January 27, 2024] (0126-0301)

TY, BENIN. Antonio, IK7WUL is active as **TY2AA** until **February 20th** while on a humanitarian mission to Benin. In his spare time, he operates SSB only. QSL via [IZ8CCW](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0223)

TZ, MALI. Jeff, K1MMB, has returned to Bamako and works once more as **TZ4AM** on 80-10m (CW, SSB) and on 6m with a beacon (**TZ6HY/B**); when 6m opens, he will also show up there for QSOs. QSL via [KX4R](#).

-[DXNL # 2388 January 10, 2024] (0112-0216)

V2, ANTIGUA & BARBUDA. Chuck, KG9N is QRV as **V26CV** from Antigua, IOTA NA-100, until **February 20th**. Activity is on various bands using CW and SSB. This includes being an entry in the CQ World Wide WPX RTTY contest (February 10th to 11th) and the upcoming ARRL DX CW contest (February 17th-18th). QSL to [KG9N](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0223)

V3, BELIZE. Uwe, DL8UD will be active again as **V31KO** from Belize from **February 15th to March 6th**. He will operate SSB, CW and FT8 on 160-6 meters, and will participate in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th), the CQ WW 160-Meter SSB Contest (February 23rd-25th) and the ARRL DX SSB Contest (March 2nd-3rd) as V3O. QSL for both callsigns via [DL8UD](#), bureau or direct.

-[425DXN # 1707 January 20, 2024] (0209-0308)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Bob, WX4G, operates as **V47RB** from **February 13th to 20th**.

QSL via [WX4G](#).

-[DXNL # 2392 February 7, 2024] (0209-0223)

V5, NAMIBIA. Frank, DL7ATA is QRV as **V5/DL7ATA** until **March 23rd**. Activity is on the HF bands using SSB in his evening hours. QSL to DL7ATA.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 6 February 8, 2024] (0209-0315)

VK, AUSTRALIA. Celebrating the 60th anniversary of the Islands On The Air program, special event callsign **VI6ØIOTA** will be in use across Australia **during 2024**: "whenever VI6ØIOTA is heard on the air", the organizers say, "it will be from one of the VK IOTA entities", including the main islands of Australia (OC-001) and Tasmania (OC-007).

Andrey, VK5MAV is using the callsign during part of his current VK5MAV/4 activity from Magnetic Island (OC-171), and team VK5FIL will also operate VI6ØIOTA during part of their **April 14th-21st expedition** to Flinders Island (OC-261). QSOs will be made available for ClubLog and LoTW Matching on the IOTA website; traditional QSLs via [MØOXO's QRSS](#). Updates and information about the certificates that will be available for working VI6ØIOTA will be posted to <https://www.qrz.com/db/VI60IOTA>.

-[425DXN # 1710 February 10, 2024] (0209-0301)

VK, AUSTRALIA. Andrey, VK5MAV will be QRV as **VK5MAV/4** from Magnetic Island (OC-171) from **February 6th to 11th**. QSL to [VK5MAV](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0216)

VP9, BERMUDA. Darrell, AB2E will be active as **AB2E/VP9** from Bermuda (NA-005) on **February 14th-19th**, including an entry in the ARRL DX CW Contest (February 17th-18th) as VP9I. Outside the contest he will operate mainly CW, with some FT8 and a focus on 30, 17 and 12m. QSL AB2E/VP9 via [AB2E](#), VP9I via [WW3S](#).

-[425DXN # 1709 February 3, 2024] (0209-0223)

XU, CAMBODIA. Yoshi, **XU7AKJ** is QRV from Phnom Penh and has been active on 10 meters using FT8 from 0200 to 0700z. QSL via [JA3ULS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 5 February 1, 2024] (0202-0223)

YJ, VANUATU. Takio, JH3QFL, and Mamoru, JH3VAA, are QRV as **YJØAA** and **YJØMN** respectively from Vanuatu (OC-035) until **February 11th**. QRV on FT8 on the HF bands and via Green Cube Sat IO-117. See also

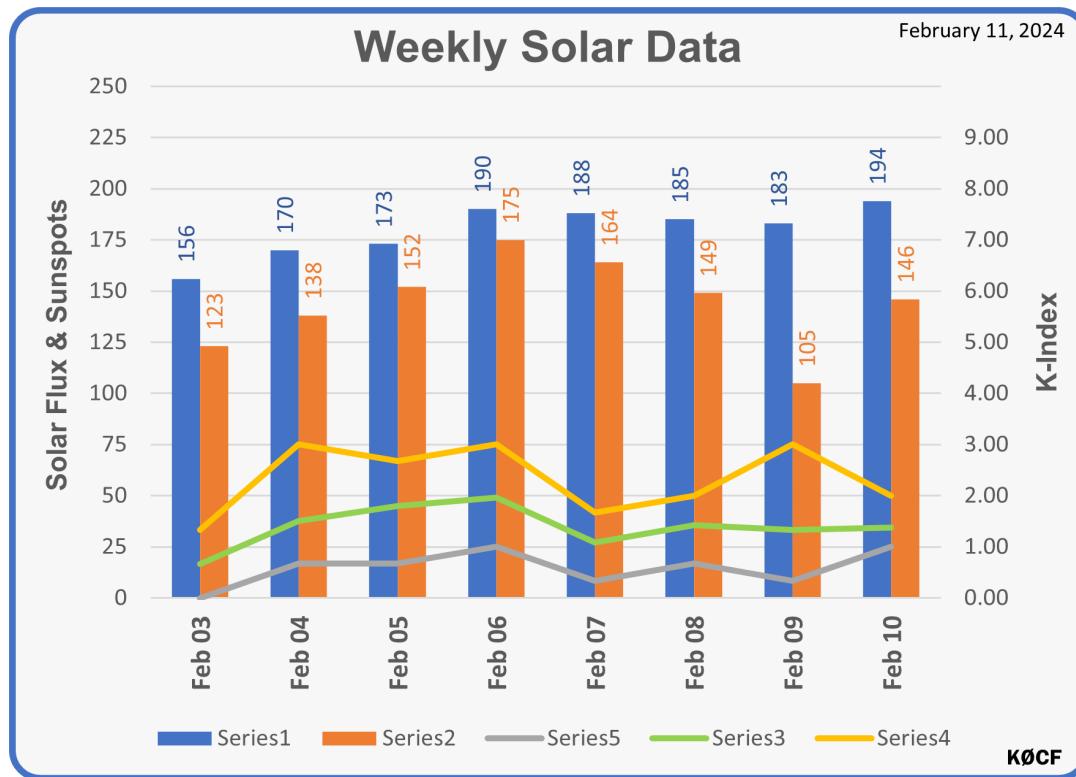
<https://stationproject.blog/2023/07/04/greencube-io-117-overview/> QSL via [JH3QFL](#) or LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2391 January 31, 2024] (0202-0216)

ZC4, UK SOVEREIGN BASE AREAS ON CYPRUS. Martin, MWØBRO is QRV as **ZC4GW** during **2024**. QSL to [MWØBRO](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 25, 2024] (0126-0301)

Propagation (Updated daily)



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-Index (K-Idx) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

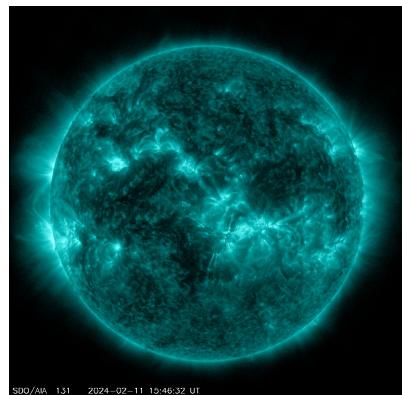
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wavelength of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Saturday, February 3rd through yesterday, February 10th.

The average solar flux was up 42 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of

194 on Saturday, February 10th, following a low of 156 on February 3rd.

The average sunspot count was up 59 for the week, peaking at 175 on Tuesday, February 6th followed by a weekly low of 105 on February 9th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 2.3 with a maximum of 3.0 on Friday, February 9th, resulting in generally quiet geomagnetic conditions.

Solar flare activity since February 3rd has been extremely high with 23 major flares, the largest of which was a major X 3.3 event on Friday, February 9th.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Saturday, February 3rd through 1423 UTC, February 11th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
1	Feb 10	2307	M 9.0
2	Feb 10	0354	M 3.4
3	Feb 10	0051	M 1.5
4	Feb 09	1800	M 1.2
5	Feb 09	1314	X 3.3
6	Feb 08	2355	M 3.9
7	Feb 08	1902	M 1.3
8	Feb 08	1523	M 1.8
9	Feb 08	1418	M 1.2
10	Feb 08	1312	M 3.4
11	Feb 07	1805	M 1.3
12	Feb 07	0331	M 5.1
13	Feb 06	1849	M 1.3
14	Feb 06	0312	M 4.2
15	Feb 05	0622	M 1.4
16	Feb 05	0428	M 2.1
17	Feb 04	2237	M 2.7
18	Feb 04	2228	M 2.1
19	Feb 04	2058	M 1.1
20	Feb 04	1828	M 1.1
21	Feb 04	1713	M 1.3
22	Feb 04	1638	M 1.5
23	Feb 04	1153	M 1.4

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Feb 11	60%	15%	198

Feb 12	60%	15%	198
Feb 13	60%	15%	195

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on February 5, 2024).

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 11	160	2
Feb 12	170	2
Feb 13	165	2
Feb 14	165	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 15	165	2
Feb 16	170	2
Feb 17	160	2
Feb 18	160	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 19	160	2
Feb 20	160	2
Feb 21	160	2
Feb 22	165	2

Higns for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 234 on January 15, 2023.

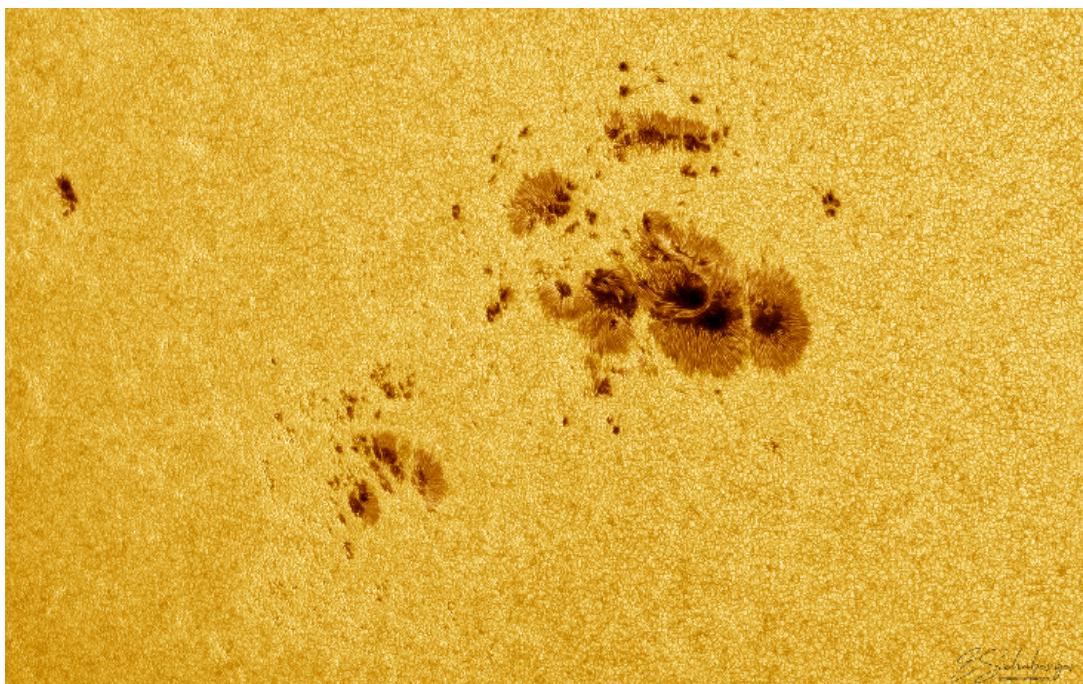
Sunspots: 227 on July 11, 2023.

25% Chance of X-Flares Today

Yesterday, the sun unleashed [a powerful X3.4-class solar flare](#). NOAA forecasters say there is a 25% chance it could happen again today. The most likely source is [big sunspot AR3576](#), which has an unstable delta-class magnetic field and is directly facing Earth. (Copyright © [SpaceWeather.com](#) 02/10/2024, republished here by permission.)

The "Martian Sunspot" Is Facing Earth

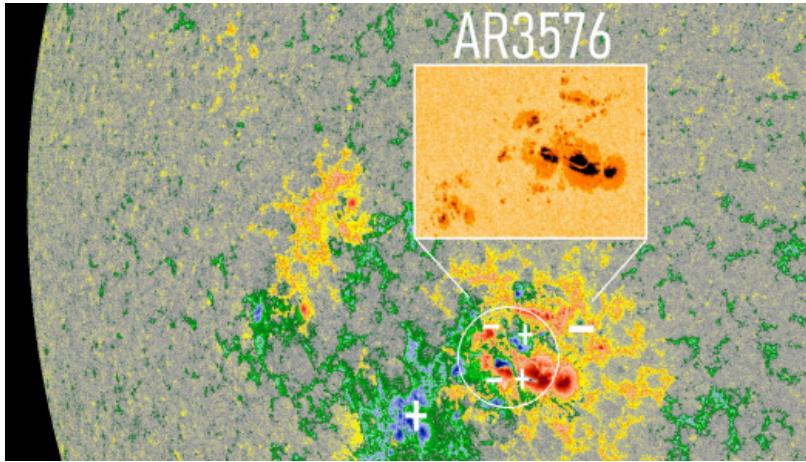
A sunspot big enough to see from Mars is now turning to face Earth. NASA's Perseverance rover on Mars first noticed the sprawling sunspot group last week, photographing it using the rover's MASTCAM. It was a behemoth then, and it has only grown bigger since. Here's how AR3576 looked yesterday from Argentina:



"The view was fantastic," says Eduardo Schaberger Poupeau, who photographed the sunspot using a solar-filtered telescope in the town of Rafaela. "AR3576 appeared as a large archipelago containing a multitude of dark cores."

In fact, the sunspot is even bigger than the picture suggests. From end to end, the sunspot group stretches more than 150,000 km with at least 4 dark cores larger than Earth. You can see it using ISO-approved eclipse glasses--no magnification required.

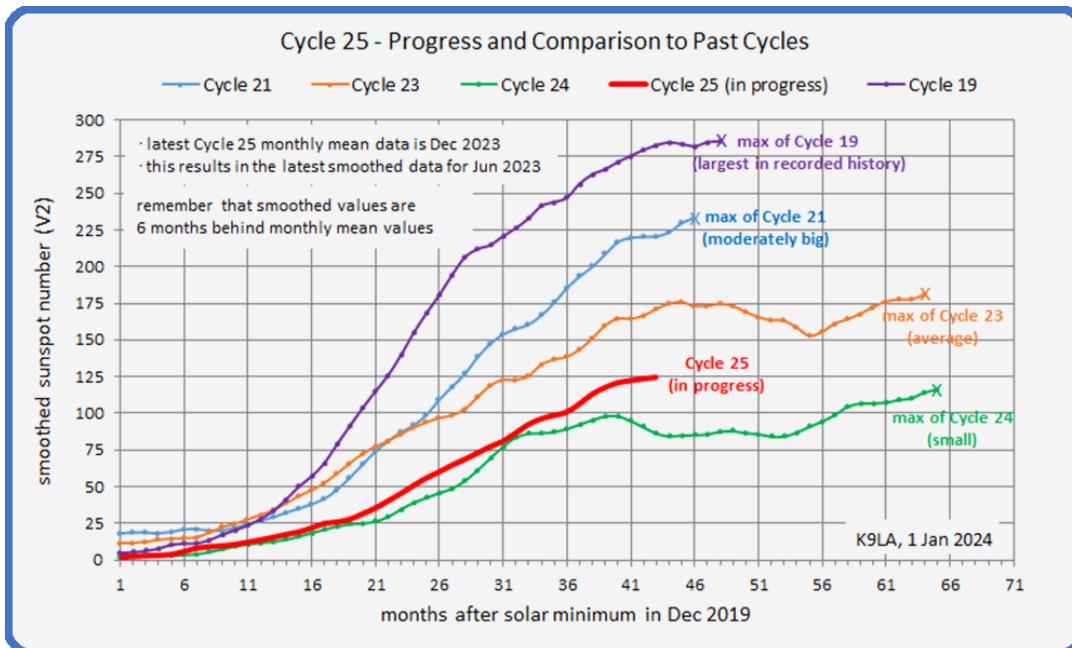
AR3576 is big, yes, but of even greater interest is the sunspot's magnetic complexity. This magnetic map from NASA's Solar Dynamics Observatory shows a mixture of polarities in the sunspot's core:



In the circled region, positive and negative magnetic polarities are so closely-packed, it's not possible to see them clearly on this map. Opposite polarities bumping together can cause explosive magnetic reconnection. Indeed, NOAA forecasters say this sunspot poses a threat for strong X-class solar flares--and Earth is directly in the line of fire. Stay tuned. (Copyright © SpaceWeather.com 02/08/2024, republished here by permission.)

Cycle 25 vs. Past Cycles

Carl Luetzelschwab, K9LA (an acknowledged propagation expert) has created this graph showing Cycle 25 progress as compared to a few past Solar Cycles. It is very interesting to see that Cycle 25 is a very modest iteration, providing some good but not great propagation on the HF bands.



Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>
<https://www.spaceweather.com/>
<https://www.solarham.net/>
<https://dx.qsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

-[Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources]

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC	End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z
	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z
	Friday	0145Z	0215Z
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0230Z	0300Z
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday		Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000Z
is Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start	End	Web Site
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	Feb 10 0000Z	Feb 11 2400Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Feb 12 1300Z	Feb 16 2359Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	Feb 17 0000Z	Feb 18 2400Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 23 2200Z	Feb 25 2159Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Feb 24 1800Z	Feb 25 0600Z	Rules
North Carolina QSO Party	Feb 25 1500Z	Feb 26 0100Z	Rules
Worldwide Patagonia DX Contest	Feb 25 0000Z	Feb 25 2359Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	Mar 2 0000Z	Mar 3 2400Z	Rules
Open Ukraine RTTY Championship	Mar 2 1800Z	Mar 3 1359Z	Rules
YB DX RTTY Contest	Mar 9 0000Z	Mar 9 2359Z	Rules
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 9 1400Z	Mar 10 2100Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 9 1500Z	Mar 10 1500Z	Rules
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 9 1900Z	Mar 10 1900Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 10 0000Z	Mar 10 0359Z	Rules
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 10 1800Z	Mar 11 0100Z	Rules
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 16 0200Z	Mar 18 0200Z	Rules
Russian DX Contest	Mar 16 1200Z	Mar 17 1200Z	Rules
North American SSB Sprint Contest	Mar 24 0000Z	Mar 24 0400Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Mar 30 0000Z	Mar 31 2400Z	Rules
Louisiana QSO Party	Apr 6 1400Z	Apr 7 0200Z	Rules
SP DX Contest	Apr 6 1500Z	Apr 7 1500Z	Rules
JIDX CW Contest	Apr 13 0700Z	Apr 14 1300Z	Rules
New Mexico QSO Party	Apr 13 1400Z	Apr 14 0200Z	Rules
Georgia QSO Party	Apr 13 1800Z	Apr 14 2359Z	Rules
Holyland DX Contest	Apr 19 2100Z	Apr 20 2100Z	Rules
YU DX Contest	Apr 20 0700Z	Apr 21 0659Z	Rules
CQMM DX Contest	Apr 20 0900Z	Apr 21 2359Z	Rules
Michigan QSO Party	Apr 20 1600Z	Apr 21 0400Z	Rules
Ontario QSO Party	Apr 20 1800Z	Apr 21 1800Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 21 1800Z	Apr 21 2359Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, Digital	Apr 27 0001Z	Apr 28 2359Z	Rules
SP DX RTTY Contest	Apr 27 1200Z	Apr 28 1200Z	Rules
Helvetia Contest	Apr 27 1300Z	Apr 28 1259Z	Rules
Florida QSO Party	Apr 27 1600Z	Apr 28 2159Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Spring Contest, CW	May 4 0001Z	May 5 2359Z	Rules

7th Call Area QSO Party	May 4	1300Z	May 5	0700Z	Rules
Indiana QSO Party	May 4	1600Z	May 5	0400Z	Rules
Delaware QSO Party	May 4	1700Z	May 5	2359Z	Rules
New England QSO Party	May 4	2000Z	May 5	2400Z	Rules
CQ-M International DX Contest	May 11	1200Z	May 12	1159Z	Rules

-[Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)]

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